Service on <u>August 20, 2003</u> labeled as Express Mail with Express Mail Label No. <u>ET 537600372 US</u> and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.: Div. of 09/368,680 Applicant: Douglas R. DOLE

Title: ANTI-MISMATCH OF NEAR-SIZED COUPLING SEGMENTS

Filed: Herewith Examiner: Carlos Lugo

Art Unit: 3627

Atty. Docket: 206,222

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Prior to its examination, please amend this application as follows: